

REMARKS

The title has been amended to conform with the claimed invention. The specification has been amended to more clearly identify the related applications. Claims 33-40 remain in this application. Claims 1-32 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 33-40 have been added. Claims 33-38 correlate to non-elected claims 33-34, 39-41 and 44, which were subject to a restriction requirement in Paper No. 29 of the parent application. Support for claims 39-40 can be found in the specification on page 11, lines 3-17. No new matter has been added.

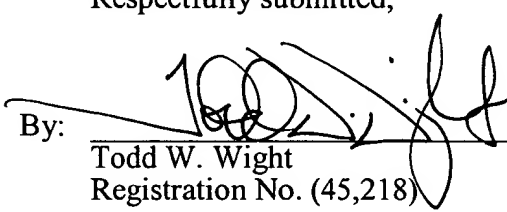
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 297912001911. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

Paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 1 has been amended as follows:

This application is a divisional of application Serial No. 08/999,583, filed December 22, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of: International Application Ser. No. PCT/US95/16497 [co-pending patent application Serial Number PCT/US/95/16497, published as International Publication No. WO 97/21401], filed December 8, 1995[,] and nationalized under U.S. Application Ser. No. 09/077,533, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,053,943; [co-pending patent application Serial Number] U.S. Application Ser. No. 08/833,797, filed April 9, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of [co-pending patent application Serial Number] U.S. Application Ser. No. 08/508,033, filed July 27, 1995, now Pat. No. 5,749,880, which is a continuation-in-part of [co-pending patent application Serial Number] U.S. Application Ser. No. 08/401,871, filed March 10, 1995, now Pat. No. 6,124,523; and [co-pending patent application Serial Number] U.S. Application Ser. No. 08/794,871, filed February 5, 1997, now Pat. No. 6,039,755. This application and each of the foregoing [co-pending patent] applications are commonly assigned and their disclosures are incorporated by reference.

Paragraph beginning at line 10 of page 2 has been amended as follows:

The present invention makes advantageous use of the known biocompatible and material properties of ePTFE vascular grafts, and adds an abluminal supporting structure capable of being diametrically reduced to an intraluminal delivery profile and self-expanding *in vivo* to conform to the anatomical topography at the site of intraluminal implantation. More particularly, the present invention consists of an ePTFE substrate material, such as that described in [co-pending U.S. Patent application Serial] U.S. Application Ser. No. 08/794,871, filed February 5, 1997, now Pat. No. 6,039,755, as a carrier for a helically wound, open cylindrical support structure made of a shape memory alloy.

In the Claims:

Claims 1-32 have been canceled.